Exhibit: Hudson, New York Post Marks and Postal Markings 1794 - 1900.

Synopsis ---->

Part One: The Stampless Era.

Stampless cover and stampless letter markings originating from the City of Hudson Post Office have been recorded from as early as 1794 and as late as into the 1850's, and are listed in various studies such as George Bernadt's *Postal Markings of New York State* and *The American Stampless Cover Catalog,* Volume I.

- **Types of Postmarks Used:**

***Straight Line Cancels:* many of these were typeset and came in different styles, sizes and configurations; these were the earliest postmarks used.**

Straight Line Cancels from Hudson, New York tend to be difficult to come by; The most important of these, at 25 x 4mm, is to be found immediately following the Part One introduction page and is dated 1794. Aside from the straight line cancel, there appears a Free Frank by Cotton Gelston, the first postmaster of Hudson. George Bernadt lists this type of Stampless Letter as '1 - 5 recorded.' Other straight lines shown, although appearing repetitious, illustrate different sizes of these postmarks

***Circular Date Stamps:* these vary in diameter, color and lettering font; a 'fancy' (one of which is illustrated on this page), and a variety are known.**

Due special mention in this category is the Free Franking by William H. Coffin under 'Circular Date Stamps 1820 - 1830' which shows a latest known use of the 27mm black CDS.

- **Types of Markings Used:**

These range from manuscript markings, such as those used to indicate the rate for that particular piece, to hand-stamp markings which are known in various sizes, styles and colors and were officially applied for various Post Office Department functions such as indicating payment of postal fees.

Part Two: The Stamp Era.

Markings of this era vary in the types and sizes of Circular Date Stamps used, including subtle variations such as the size of the letters used in the die or the location of the letters in the die itself. These are accompanied by various forms and combinations of postal revenue protection such as cork "killer" and duplex cancellations.

In this section, as in Part One (aside from the covers shown on each part's introductory page which are strictly illustrative), these are shown in chronological order of their use and illustrate the evolution of different formats over time up to 1900.

There are many important pieces in this section; the following stand out the most:

Part Two intro page: This shows the classic Hudson negative 'H.'

Page 4 of Part Two: A business size letter (folded at left to fit the exhibit page) sent intra-county at 5 times the domestic rate up to 2.5 oz franked with a 12 cent issue of 1851 and a 3 cent red-brown of 1857, with two 32mm black circular date stamps and a manuscript marking on the 12 cent stamp for added revenue protection.

Page 11: A Mixed Franking to Great Britain (6 cent carmine Banknote Issue of 1870 with a one penny red) with a cork killer in the shape of a branch with leaf.

Exhibit:
Hudson, New York Post Marks and Postal Markings 1794 - 1900

List of references:

Ahlquist, Roy. Columbia County A Postal History, Ahlquist/ESPHS, 2001.

Bernadt, George J.. Postal Markings of New York State, ESPHS, 1993.

Cole, James M.. Cancellations and Killers of the Banknote Era 1870-1894. U.S. Classics Society, 1995.

Kay, John and Chester M. Smith. New York Postal History, APS, 1982.

Phillips, David G. (Editor). American Stampless Cover Catalog, Volume I, Phillips Publishing, 1997.

Salkind, Sol. U.S. Cancels 1890 – 1900. Sol Salkind, 1985.

Whitfield, Kenneth A.. Cancellations Found on 19th Century U.S. Stamps, U.S. Cancellation Club, 2002.